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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 038518

17
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01

NEA-10 ACDA-10 EB-07 OES-05 AGR-10 /112 R

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---------- 128442
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 038518

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY - FEBRUARY 17

1. NYT (PAGE 4) AP FROM MOSCOW REPORTS BOSTON GLOBE STORY ALLEDGING AMBASSADOR'S BLOOD ALIMENT AGGRAVATED BY SOVIET MICROWAVES AND AP SHIRTTAIL CARRIES EMBASSY DENIAL. ALSO SUN AND STAR ON DENIAL.

2. NYT (PAGE 6) BERNARD WEINRAUB FROM BRUSSELS SAYS AT THREE-DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SOVIET EMIGRES AND LEADERS JEWISH GROUPS CHARGED ANTI-SEMITISM HAD GROWN SHARPLY IN RUSSIA IN LAST TWO YEARS AND INTIMIDATION THOSE SEEKING EXIT VISAS ON THE RISE. ALSO STAR.

3. NYT (PAGE 8) LESLIE GELB REPORTS WHITE HOUSE SOURCES SAY PRESIDENT HAS REACHED ANOTHER COMPROMISE POSITION WITHIN ADMINISTRATION ON SALT WHICH HE HOPES WILL LEAD TO PACT WITH MOSCOW BUT AVOID OPEN BATTLE WITH PENTAGON.

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4. NYT (PAGE 8) REPORTS NEW ARMS PROPOSAL GIVEN TO

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DOBRYNIN AT WHITE HOUSE TALK BETWEEN HIM AND PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

5. NYT (PAGE 32) DREW MIDDLETON FROM FORT MCPHERSON, GEORGIA SAYS FORCES COMMAND, WITH HEADQUARTERS THERE, IS TRAINING NATIONAL GUARD AND THE ARMY RESERVE TO FACE SOVIET IN COMBAT.

6. NYT (PAGE 45) THEODORE SHABAD REPORTS SOVIET LAST YEAR CONTINUED TO EXCEED U.S. OUTPUT OF KEY INDUSTRIAL COMMODITIES FROM OIL AND COAL TO STEEL AND CEMENT BUT FELL SHORT IN FARM PRODUCTION, CREATING ONE OF THE GREATEST AGRICULTURAL GAPS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN RECENT DECADES.

7. STAR (PAGE 1) HENRY BRADSHER REPORTS CIA NOW BELIEVES SOVIET IS DEVOTING TWICE AS MUCH OF ITS GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT TO MILITARY -- BETWEEN 14-17 PERCENT AS OPPOSED TO EARLIER ESTIMATE BETWEEN 6-8 PERCENT AND IN A NUMBER OF FIELDS THEY ARE PASSING THE LONG-SUPERIOR U.S. TECHNICAL LEVEL. INGERSOLL

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